



PATENT APP. SER. NO. 11/500,808
ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1715861

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	Examiner:	Nathaniel C. Chukwurah
Kunio Ishizaki)	Group Art Unit:	3721
International Appln. No. PCT/JP03/00202)	Confirmation No.:	6995
Serial No.: 10/500,808)		
Filing Date: July 7, 2004)		
For: STAPLER)		

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b)(4), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4) before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists and does not constitute an admission that each

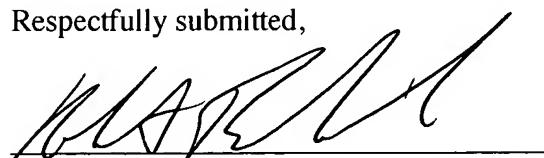
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or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees in connection with the filing of this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305.

Respectfully submitted,



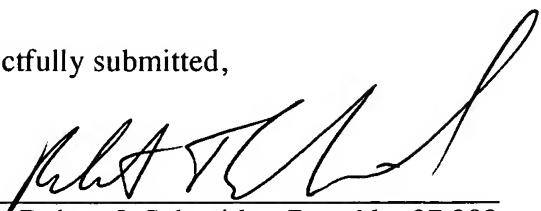
Robert J. Schneider
Reg. No. 27,383

Date: June 27, 2006
Chapman and Cutler LLP
111 West Monroe Street, 16th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603-4080
(312) 845-3919

The examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned with any questions or comments so that efforts may be made to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Robert J. Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383

Date: June 27, 2006

Attorneys for Applicant(s):

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

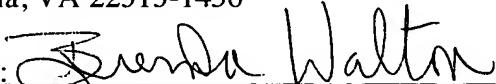
Patent Application Ser. No.: 10/500,808

Attorney Docket Number: 1715681

Date of Mailing: June 27, 2006

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence, namely: Request for Continued Examination, Remarks, Information Disclosure Statement with reference and English abstract, fee check, return postcard and this certificate of mailing, is being deposited on the date listed above, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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Signature: 

Typed Name of Person Signing this Certificate: Brenda Walton

June 27, 2006

Date of Signature



PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

Approved for use through July 31, 2006. GPO :0007-0001
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/500,808
Filing Date	06/23/2006
First Named Inventor	ISHIZAKI, Kunio
Art Unit	3721
Examiner Name	CHUKWURAH, Nathaniel C.
Attorney Docket Number	1715861

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP 2000-86069 (with English abstract)	03-28-2000	Minolta Co. Ltd.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.